

Contact:
Mark York

502-564-5525

VETERAN STATE EMPLOYEE NAMED INSURANCE COMMISSIONER

Sharon Clark to lead department

FRANKFORT, Ky. (June 30, 2008) – Sharon P. Clark, a 17-year veteran of Kentucky state government, has been appointed commissioner of the Department of Insurance (DOI), Robert D. Vance, secretary of the Public Protection Cabinet, announced today.

Clark's experience includes five years as director of the Consumer Protection and Education division at DOI. Clark, of Harrodsburg, served three years in positions for the Kentucky House of Representatives before accepting a position in the Finance and Administration Cabinet last December.

"Sharon Clark brings a wealth of knowledge to the Department of Insurance and we are pleased to have someone with her experience serving as commissioner," said Vance. "Sharon's knowledge of the industry, coupled with her background in consumer protection, will serve the department well."

Clark's career also includes assignments at the Public Service Commission and the former Workforce Development Cabinet.

"I am gratified for the opportunity to serve Governor Beshear and look forward to undertaking the challenges that face the department," said Clark.

John Burkholder has been serving as the acting DOI commissioner and will return to his role as deputy commissioner.

"John has been invaluable guiding the department the past several months, especially during the 2008 legislative session," said Vance. "We are fortunate to have two individuals working together in leadership positions within the same agency."

DOI is an agency within the Public Protection Cabinet.

Mark H. York

Chief of Staff

Office of the Secretary